

**REDISCOVERING
THE EUROPEAN
COMMON GOOD**

La Pairelle, Namur, September 21-23, 2018



PASSION FOR EUROPE
Rediscovering the European common good



Organizers:

“PASSION FOR EUROPE”, JESC

The group “Passion for Europe” together with the Jesuit European Social Centre (JESC) are proposing a two-day session to share the Christian vision of Europe’s current situation and main challenges, and open a dialogue on possible changes of mindset so as to rediscover the European common good.

“To Europe we can put the question: “Where is your vigour? Where is that idealism which inspired and ennobled your history? Where is your spirit of curiosity and enterprise? Where is your thirst for truth, a thirst which hitherto you have passionately shared with the world?”

Pope Francis, Nov 25, 2014, Council of Europe

Draft Program

FRIDAY

1:30 pm: Welcome-coffee, booklets, room check-in

2:15 pm: Opening session

Video: Europe Founding Fathers

Victoria Martín de la Torre, press officer of the S&D Group in the European Parliament and author of the book “Europe, a Leap into the Unknown”.

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm: Session 1

Migration flows: How Europe faces the global challenge? Which policy for Common Good?

Moderator:

Sébastien Maillard, Director, Jacques Delors Institute

The so called “migrants crisis” is at the heart of political evolutions in a number of EU countries. European policy is widely considered a failure for a majority of citizens, and this issue is a source of division within Europe. Some EU national migration policies are in contradiction with the humanistic spirit at the foundation of Europe’s values; Pope Francis calls on Europe to find “the right balance between its two-fold moral responsibility to protect the rights of its citizens and to ensure assistance and acceptance to migrants,” and calls for a dialogue to find new and sustainable solutions with greater boldness and creativity.

Speakers:

Henrik Nielsen (tbc), Acting Director, DG Migration and Home Affairs of the European Commission

Johannes Brandstaeter, German Diakonisches Werk

José Ignacio García, Director, JRS Europe

5:00 pm: Break

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: Group Session 1

6:45 pm: Dinner

8:00 pm: Video of Pope Francis's speech on Europe, followed by discussion

SATURDAY

7:30 am – 8:30 am: Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Session 2

Integral ecology: Environmental and social challenges, how to keep man at the centre?

Moderator:

Josianne Gauthier, Secretary General at CIDSE (Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité) (tbc)

Pope Francis's encyclical Laudato sí is a dramatic and a joyful document. Its central message is that dangerous climate change and the unscrupulous exploitation of natural resources continue to threaten the future of our planet. Dramatic because it faces the global crisis of today's world which is both ecological and social. Joyful because it offers ways and hope to tackle this crisis.

Speakers:

Andrea Tilche, Acting Director, Directorate Environment of the European Commission

Martin Maier, JESC Secretary for European Affairs

Philippe Lamberts, Member of the European Parliament, Co-Chair Group of the Greens

10:30 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 am: Group Session 2

12:15 am – 1:30 pm: Lunch

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm: Session 3

Cultural challenge within EU: United in diversity

Moderator:

Gyula Ocskay, General Secretary, CESCO (European Institute of cross-border studies)

Europe's cultural diversity is one of its greatest resources. In contrast to new identity discourses, it can be demonstrated through this diversity that the foreign, the other, is not a threat to our identity but an enrichment. Pope Francis emphasizes that European identity is and always has been a dynamic and multicultural identity: This applies to all areas of art and culture. Back in 1983, Milan Kundera said that, for Poles, Czechs and Hungarians, the designation of Europe had spiritual rather than geographical connotations. Europe is "a family of peoples" having, like every family, many things in common, but also differences; however, each member of the family is necessary to the group. Its cohesion cannot be based only on a common market or citizenship, but also on shared culture, narratives and vision. However, up to now education and civil society remain stranded within national borders. The promotion of cultural exchange, especially between East and West, could contribute to bridging the political gulfs that have recently opened up, moving towards a pluri-national democracy, based on an European civil society and trans-frontier dialogue that is also open to the rest of the world. As Pope Francis said, "Today more than ever, the founding fathers' vision inspires us to build bridges and tear down walls".

Speakers:

Mgr Jean Kockerols, Auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese Malines-Bruxelles

Philippe Herzog, Founder and honorary president of Confrontations Europe, former Member of the European Parliament

Jean Peyrony, General Director, Transfrontier Operational Mission

Principal panel discussant:

HE Mgr Alain Paul Lebeau, Apostolic nuncio to the European Union

3:30 pm: Break

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm: Group Session 3

7:00 pm: Dinner

8:00 pm: Evening piano concert in the Chapel

Some musical tastes of the European cultural heritage

Maxence Pilchen, pianist

Maxence Pilchen's vast repertoire, which includes both solo and orchestra work, along with his interpretations of Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Rachmaninov, Stravinsky, Albert Roussel or Prokofiev, have earned him critical acclaim in the musical world. He has also participated in the creation and execution of many contemporary works. Thanks to this wide ranging repertoire, he has won many other international distinctions in cities such as Porto, Barcelona, Rome and Epinal.

SUNDAY

7:30 am – 8:30 am: Breakfast

9:00 am – 11:00 am: Feedback / wrap-up Session

Moderator:

Peter Rožič, Director, JESC (Jesuit European Social Centre), with invited researchers and analysts

Report from the groups and analysis

Exchange on main conclusions

10:30 am: Break

11:00 am: Mass in the Chapel

12:15 am: Lunch

2:00 pm: Departure



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“Passion for Europe”, a group of Christians of different nationalities and confessions involved in EU activities, was formed as a place to exchange on Europe’s future, based on Pope Francis vision for Europe and the Social Teaching of the Church.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

La Pairelle: Rue Marcel Lecomte, 25. 5100 Wepion. Belgique

Tel: + 32 81 468 132

From Belgium: 081 46 81 32

Contact: Armelle Dessart

Access: Road E411, Exit 14 (Bouge). Cross Namur Direction Profondeville (N92). At Namur exit, drive up on the right rue Marcel Lecomte. After 1km, follow “Centre Spirituel”.

GPS: 25, chemin de la Pairelle

Car-sharing from Brussels possible

Train: Namur Station. In front of the station: quai Rogier, Bus N°4 (Optional Bus stop La Pairelle: ask driver. Walk 1km up rue Marcel Lecomte and then follow “Centre Spirituel”)

Or: 5 km by taxi.

Registration Form (to be sent to: info@lapairelle.be)

Name, First Name: _____

Occupation, nationality: _____

Address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Phone Number: _____

- Single room
- Double room

Arrival (date/time) _____

Departure (date/time) _____

If travel by car:

Departure from: _____ at: _____

Number of Possible places in the car: _____

I need a lift/car sharing from _____

Price for the whole session: 200 euros (to be paid at arrival in cash or visa, or by bank transfer at:

BANK ACCOUNT : C S I « La Pairelle »

IBAN: BE 58 3601 0697 8979

BIC: BBRUBEBB

ADDRESS: ING - Chaussée de Dinant 1031, - 5100 Wépion

Indicate: BE28026240/Name

If any difficulty with the price, do not hesitate to contact:

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